

DAY 6: INDEFINITE ARTICLES & EXPANSION

Week 1: Foundations & Architecture • Target Time: 3.5 Hours

PHASE 1: INPUT & ACQUISITION (1.5 HOURS)

Deutsche Welle (Nicos Weg) Instructions

Today shifts focus to "a/an" (indefinite articles), how to say "not a" (negation), and higher numbers. Complete:

- 1. **Episode 14: Meine Familie** (Listen closely to how family members are introduced).
 - 2. **Episode 15: Wie alt bist du?** (Combines family vocabulary with numbers 21-100 for ages).
- Protocol:* Notice the pattern of reading two-digit numbers backward in German (e.g., "one-and-twenty"). This requires cognitive reprogramming, so practice saying ages aloud repeatedly.

PHASE 2: VOCABULARY MASTERY (1.0 HOUR)

Core Word List (Family & Numbers 21-100)

Add these to your Anki system. The genders of family members generally align with their biological sex, making them easier to memorize.

German Term	English Equivalent	Classification / Context
die Familie, -n	the family	Noun (Feminine)
die Eltern (Plural)	the parents	Noun (Plural only)
der Vater / die Mutter	the father / the mother	Nouns (M/F)
der Bruder / die Schwester	the brother / the sister	Nouns (M/F)
das Kind, -er	the child	Noun (Neuter)
ein / eine	a / an	Indefinite Article
kein / keine	not a / no	Negative Article
einundzwanzig (21)	twenty-one	Number (Literal: one-and-twenty)
drei��ig (30)	thirty	Number (Uses '��' instead of 'z')
vierzig (40), f��nfzig (50)	forty, fifty	Numbers (-zig suffix)

German Term	English Equivalent	Classification / Context
hundert (100)	one hundred	Number
Wie alt...?	How old...?	Interrogative Phrase

PHASE 3: ACTIVE OUTPUT & GRAMMAR DRILLS (1.0 HOUR)

Grammar Blueprint: Indefinite Articles & "kein"

1. Indefinite Articles (ein/eine)

When saying "a" or "an", German distinguishes between genders in the Nominative case:

- **Masculine:** *ein* (e.g., ein Bruder, ein Arzt)
- **Neuter:** *ein* (e.g., ein Kind, ein Krankenhaus)
- **Feminine:** *eine* (e.g., eine Schwester, eine Klinik)

2. The Negation "kein"

To negate a noun that has an indefinite article (or no article), replace `ein` with `kein`. It acts exactly like `ein`, taking the same endings:

- Das ist **ein** Auto. → Das ist **kein** Auto. (That is not a car.)
- Das ist **eine** Schwester. → Das ist **keine** Schwester.

3. Numbers 21-99 Mechanic

Read the "ones" digit, add "und" (and), then read the "tens" digit.

Example: 24 = vier-und-zwanzig. 57 = sieben-und-fünfzig.

Mandatory Execution Exercises

Drill A: Fill in the Blank (ein/eine & kein/keine)

1. Ist das _____ Bruder? → Nein, das ist _____ Bruder.
2. Das ist _____ Familie.
3. Ich bin Arzt, ich habe _____ Krankenhaus. (a)
4. Das ist _____ Problem! (not a)

Drill B: Number Logic (Translate into German words)

1. 35 (thirty-five)
2. 82 (eighty-two)
3. How old are you? (Informal) → I am 26 years old. (Ich bin ... Jahre alt)
4. She has a brother and a sister.

Drill Answer Key (Verification Module)

Drill A Solutions: (1) ein / kein | (2) eine | (3) ein | (4) kein

Drill B Solutions:

1. fünfunddreißig
2. zweiundachtzig
3. Wie alt bist du? → Ich bin sechsundzwanzig Jahre alt.
4. Sie hat einen Bruder und eine Schwester. *(Note: 'einen' is accusative for the brother, which we will formally conquer next week!)*